

term consequences of this military action. As a Member of Congress, it is my responsibility to make sure we don't commit resources, the most precious of which are our men and women in uniform, with no comprehensive plan for our involvement. Congress needs to debate and develop a new Authorization for the Use of Military Force (AUMF) before authorizing one piece of that strategy that will inevitably lead to further involvement across multiple national borders.

PREVENTING EXECUTIVE OVER- REACH ON IMMIGRATION ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 5759, the so-called "Executive Amnesty Prevention Act of 2014."

This bill is nothing more than a political stunt by my colleagues across the aisle. It seeks to restrict the President from using his executive authority—much in the same way that President Reagan and President George H.W. Bush have done before him—to further secure the border and prioritize deporting felons over families. In fact, over the last 50 years, every President has used executive authority to take action on immigration, including six Republican Presidents.

This bill would not only be limited to the President's most recent use of executive authority but would also prevent the Administration from granting deferred action to Dreamers who are currently eligible for DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) but have not yet received it. This would effectively end the DACA program—which has already provided temporary protection for 700,000 individuals who were brought to the United States as children—and would subject hundreds of thousands of Dreamers to deportation. This legislation is so broad that the Administration would not even be able to grant deferred action from deportation to family members of U.S. Military troops.

Most importantly, this bill does nothing to address our broken immigration system. It has been more than 520 days since the Senate passed a bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform bill yet Speaker BOEHNER has refused to let us vote on this legislation. Mr. Speaker, let the People's House vote on this important measure and let democracy work its will. Why is this House so afraid of a little democracy?

HEAR WHAT I HEAR: THANKING THE ARMED FORCES AND THEIR FAMILIES THIS CHRISTMAS

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2014

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor our Armed Forces and their families, on this Christmas and holiday season of giving. Their gifts to our Nation are of the greatest. Let's

keep them in our prayers this Christmas and holiday season. I submit this poem penned in their honor by Albert Carey Caswell.

HEAR WHAT I HEAR

Pray for peace, people everywhere
Listen to what I say I say
The child, the child, sleeping in the night
he will bring us goodness and light
he will bring us goodness and light
Do you hear what I hear,
I hear
This Christmas our troops are coming home,
to their loved ones where they belong
To be near.
To be near
Do you hear what I hear
I hear
All those most poignant tears,
of all those who've lost their loved ones so
very dear

So dear
Who will be alone year after year
After year
Never again to be near
To be near
All of those little boys and girls,
who've lost all their best friends in the world
In the world
Do you see what I see
I see
All those amputees,
who gave all their strong arms and legs,
as for you and me what they gave
What they gave
And all those physical therapists who inspire
these
To dig in deep
Dig in deep
Do you see what I see
All those selfless ones,
whose eyesight is now gone,
all for the price of freedom they paid
They paid
Do you know what I know
I know
How inside them all so grows,
the scars of war upon them so
PTS something on that outside which
doesn't show
Do you know what I know
Our Armed Forces,
are our most brilliant of all souls
Whose hearts are made of gold,
and their families so
And their families so
Let us bring them silver and gold
Silver and gold
All in our hearts that we hold,
that we hold
Do you know what I know
All those doctors and nurses so,
who from death have so stole
So stole
Giving all those families hope
Giving them peace and such hope
As all across America in hospitals their dedi-
cation shows

Shows
Do you see what I see
I see
On this Christmas Eve,
how much we owe to all of these
How great they are so all indeed
With a voice as big as the sea
as big as the sea
Found in all their deeds
In this season,
of the birth of the Prince of Peace,
please please remember him and all of these
Because they too bring us goodness and
light,
they bring us goodness and light

By: Albert Caswell.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN TOM LATHAM ON HIS RETIREMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend and colleague upon his retirement from the U.S. House of Representatives.

I have had the honor and pleasure of serving with Congressman TOM LATHAM on the House Appropriations Committee since 1997. TOM has served on a number of subcommittees, lending his expertise on energy, agriculture and homeland security policy over the years, and most recently serving as the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development.

Not only is he an exceedingly capable legislator who has demonstrated, time and again, his commitment to fiscal responsibility, but it is immediately obvious to anyone who meets him that he is 100% committed to his constituents in Iowa.

It is apparent that his Iowa values—hard work, community service, dedication to family—have colored his work here in the U.S. Congress. TOM is a thoughtful, natural born leader whose commitment to our country and his constituents comes through in every meeting, committee hearing and markup he attends. He isn't afraid to put his head down and do the difficult work demanded by this institution.

The two of us have made some great memories throughout his two decades of service, and my time in Congress has been greatly enhanced with TOM as a partner and friend. While all of us in the House of Representatives will miss his intellect and friendship, I ask you to join me in wishing TOM, his wife Kathy, their children and grandchildren all the best in his retirement. Thank you, TOM, for your service.

JAMES L. OBERSTAR MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

SPEECH OF

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2014

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 4926, to designate a segment of Interstate Route 35 in the State of Minnesota as the "James L. Oberstar Memorial Highway." This legislation would designate the segment of Interstate Route 35 between milepost 133 at Forest Lake, Minnesota, and milepost 259 at Duluth, Minnesota, as the "James L. Oberstar Memorial Highway."

Renaming these highways is a good way to memorialize Congressman Oberstar's contributions to Minnesota and our country. Born to an underground miner from Chisholm, Minnesota, Jim Oberstar served as a representative for the state of Minnesota for 36 years, totaling 18 terms from 1975 to 2011. He is the